

**FACILITATING INVERSE MULTIPLEXING OVER ASYNCHRONOUS
TRANSFER MODE VIA COMMUNICATION LINKS HAVING DISPARATE
DATA TRANSMISSION RATES**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A method for facilitating inverse multiplexing over asynchronous transfer mode is
disclosed herein. The method includes receiving a stream of sequentially aligned ATM
cells via an originating end point logical communication link. A sequence identifier is
associated with each one of the ATM for creating sequence identified ATM cells. The
sequence identified ATM cells are forwarded to an destination endpoint logical
10 communication link in a distributed manner over a plurality of IM communication links.
A first one of said IM communication links has disparate data transmission rates in at least
one data transmission direction with respect to a second one of the IM communication
links.